

tion of pulses with improved technology on large scale through these schemes. Pulses have also been brought under the Technology Mission in the Department of Agriculture & Co-operation.

Three Tier Blocking System in Punjab

2319. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the three tier blocking system in the forward areas of Punjab has proved effective to curb the armed intrusions from across the border; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) and (b) The measures adopted on the Punjab border to prevent *inter alia* armed intrusions from across the border have been yielding encouraging results. Apart from the increased number of apprehensions on the border, these measures have also helped to instil confidence among the local population.

[Translation]

Crop Insurance Scheme

2320. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of farmers covered under the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme in Madhya Pradesh during 1990-91; and

(b) the target fixed for 1991-92?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Total number of farmers covered under the

Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS) are 2,12,877 in Madhya Pradesh during the year 1990-91.

(b) The CCIS is a voluntary scheme. Implementing States/UTs are free to implement it in any area. Accordingly, no State-wise targets are fixed under the scheme. However, at the national level a target of covering 52 lakh farmers has been fixed for 1991-92 under the CCIS.

Sanctioning of Mining Lease

2321. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide submission of mining plans as essential before the agreement and after the sanctioning the mining lease by the State Government in the existing rules; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) The Mineral Concession Rules, 1960 have been amended from 19-10-1989 to provide that in the case of an application for grant of mining lease, the mining plan duly approved may be submitted within a period of six months after the precise area which is proposed to be granted is communicated to the applicant by the State Government.

[English]

Return of Travancore House to Kerala

2322. SHRI P. C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for not returning the Travancore House in New Delhi to the Government of Kerala;

(b) the reasons for not shifting the offices of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission lo-

cated at the Travancore House to elsewhere; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard and the time by which those are likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) to (c) The Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission, which is at present located at the Travancore House, has been allotted alternative accommodation in Kota House Annex and Bikaner House Hutments which are under repairs/renovation by CPWD. The work is nearing completion. The Commission proposes to start shifting to the new premises shortly. The Delhi Security Police, which is occupying a part of the Travancore House, has been allotted an alternative piece of land. The Government of India have given an undertaking to the Supreme Court for the vacation of the Travancore House by the Delhi Security Police by 31st May, 1993.

Flood Assistance to Assam

2323. SHRI NURUL ISLAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of families rendered homeless and landless by the erosion caused by Brahmaputra river in the Districts of Dhubri, Gopalpara, Nowgaon and Barpeta in Assam during last three years;

(b) whether the Union Government have extended any financial assistance to the Government of Assam to provide rehabilitation to such families; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) In-

formation is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Pension to Tamra Patra Holders

2324. SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) number of the applications received from Tamra Patra holders for pension during the last three years; and

(b) the number of persons out of them who have not been sanctioned pension so far and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) and (b) No separate record of receipt and disposal of applications from "Tamra Patra" holders for grant of Swatantra Sainik Samman Pension is being maintained.

[English]

Effects of Erosion of Brahmaputra on Kaziranga National Park

2325. SHRI NURUL ISLAM: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the existence of the Kaziranga National Park in Assam is threatened by the erosion of river Brahmaputra; and

(b) if so, the remedial measures taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b) The reach of the Brahmaputra river passing through Kaziranga National Park in Assam had experienced erosion and a scheme to tackle the problem